

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Brain Science Awareness Week and to highlight amazing advances made by south Florida's neuroscience community to unravel the mysteries of the mind.

At the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, research is yielding new insights for the treatment of devastating neurological disease, like Alzheimer's. My mother died from complications of Alzheimer's, so I know how terrible this disorder is.

Investigators at The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis are translating progress into hope for understanding traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries that are impacting thousands of our bravest warriors returning home from Afghanistan and Iraq.

On Saturday, March 22, scientists will introduce students to the wonders of the human brain at the Miami Brain Science Fair in hopes of inspiring young people to pursue the educational and professional fields that will fuel the next significant scientific discoveries.

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CONGRATULATING MICHAEL C. HOFFMAN FOR WINNING THE FLAME OF HOPE AWARD

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to recognize Michael C. Hoffman of Saratoga Springs for receiving the prestigious Flame of Hope Award from the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York. This award highlights Mike's outstanding dedication and commitment to the Epilepsy Foundation, raising awareness and funds to support the organization's mission of overcoming the challenges created by epilepsy and curing the disease.

Mike is a successful businessowner and has worked for almost four decades to improve the community around him in the capital region of New York. Through his many impressive years as an active member of the Epilepsy Foundation, I am very pleased to see him receive this award.

Again, I thank Michael C. Hoffman for his tireless efforts to improve our communities and congratulate him upon winning the Flame of Hope Award from the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York.

OBAMACARE IDEOLOGY AND RURAL REALITY

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the importance of rural health care providers.

Once again, we see President Obama standing on ideological grounds rather

than actually taking the time to understand who provides medical care to seniors and how they do it. At the same time he is giving stump speeches and trying to convince us that ObamaCare is working, he is taking \$422 billion out of Medicare.

Now, part of these cuts come from critical access hospitals, and I am referring to the cuts that he is making to Medicare in his fiscal year 2015 budget. It is similar to what he did each of the past 2 years. He targets the critical access hospitals. In order to pay for ObamaCare, he is proposing to cut Medicare payments to the providers who are providing such an important service—our rural health care providers.

These patients have an extremely difficult time with access to medical care. They are poorer and are less likely to have employer-provided insurance or prescription drug coverage.

Critical access hospitals are the safety net for many Americans. They provide exceptional care. I see it in my district every day. I commend the rural providers.

USE ALL WE CAN AND SELL THE REST

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, "We eat all we can and we sell the rest." That is the slogan for the Blue Bell Creameries in Brenham, Texas, that makes the best ice cream in the world. With the U.S. overabundance of natural gas, especially in Texas, that should be America's foreign energy policy: "Use all we can and sell the rest." In fact, we have so much natural gas in the Dakotas, they are flaring off gas wells.

Mr. Speaker, Ukraine has been invaded by the bully bear Putin. Ukraine buys 60 percent of its natural gas from Russia. In fact, numerous former Soviet republics in Europe are held hostage and rely on Russia for natural gas. We should give these nations an option to buy our gas, but we can't even start the process until our government speeds up the approval of exporting gas.

Russian aggression can be responded to with an energy policy that helps Ukraine and the United States. Meanwhile, the roar of the Russian bear threatens to devour more sovereign territory in Ukraine.

And that's just the way it is.

THE NEIL SIMPSON COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT

(Mrs. LUMMIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, on March 21, the Neil Simpson coal-fired power plant unit in Gillette, Wyoming,

is going to shut down 10 years before its useful life is up. And it is shutting down because the EPA created this rule called Boiler MACT. That stands for "maximum attainable control technology."

If it was attainable control technology, the company wouldn't shut it down 10 years before its useful life is up. It is being shut down because it is not attainable. The EPA did not tell the truth when they told people this can be attained. And now that plant will be disassembled, taken to another country and put back up and be burning coal there.

This is not wise policy, Mr. Speaker.

PROPOSED DEACTIVATION OF THE 440TH AIRLIFT WING

(Mr. HUDSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I have grave concerns about the proposed deactivation of the 440th Airlift Wing located at Pope Army Airfield contained in the President's budget. The 440th is absolutely critical to conducting the kind of training that both airborne and special operations forces located at the epicenter of the universe in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, rely on to conduct the high-risk missions they are charged with in combat.

Beyond the immediate hit on readiness, the retirement will have an impact on over 1,200 servicemembers and their families directly associated with the unit.

While I understand we face challenging fiscal times, I expect the Department to take a broad approach when it comes to finding savings. While retiring a particular airframe may make sense on paper, it is incredibly important that we take into account the value of a joint force structure. I find it hard to believe that out-of-State units can provide the same quality of training and operations as the local units that have the long-term relationship with the commanders on the ground.

Additionally, cutting Fort Bragg's airborne operations by an estimated 23 percent could further erode our readiness at a time when the United States simply cannot afford it, eliminating the ability to rapidly mobilize, train, and deploy our most in-demand forces, namely the airborne and special operators.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to prevent these devastating cuts to our forces.

CONGRATULATING EDINA HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY CHAMPS

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Edina High School hockey team for becoming repeat State champions.